

NAHEP Sponsored 5 days training for School Teachers began at IARI New Delhi

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World Bank-ICAR funded National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP), Centre for Advanced Agricultural Science and Technology (CAAST) and ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi are organizing 5 days training entitled “Introduction to Agriculture and Allied Sciences through Bagless Days for School Teachers” for 58 school teachers coming from 29 Schools of Delhi-NCR. The inauguration of training programme was held today (21 August 2024) at ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary DARE and DG, ICAR was the chief guest of the program. The program was attended by Dr. R.C. Agrawal, National Director, NAHEP & DDG (Agricultural Education), ICAR, Dr. T.R. Sharma, DDG (Crop Science), ICAR, New Delhi & Director (Incharge), ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, Ms Bimla Kumari, Deputy Director (Vocational), Education Department, Govt. of NCT, of Delhi. Dr. C. Viswanathan, Joint Director (Research), ICAR-IARI & PI, NAHEP-CAAST, IARI and Dr. Anupama Singh, Dean Graduate School & Joint Director (Education), ICAR-IARI, New Delhi also attended the program. Three important publications for Class 6th, 7th and 8th were also released during the program.

Dr. C. Viswanathan, formally welcomed the dignitaries and participants of the program. He also briefed about the training and its pedagogy. Dr. Himanshu Pathak, in his speech, highlighted how agriculture is one of the mainstays of the Indian economy due to its significant role in livelihood, employment, and national food security and is still source of livelihood for about 60 per cent of rural households in India. He highlighted the importance of teachers and their crucial role in sensitizing the school students in understanding basics of agriculture and developing a keen interest in it. He pressed the need to revive the agricultural education system to increase agricultural productivity through the development of a youth and school students with active interest in agriculture & allied disciplines, driving cutting-edge research and innovation in addition to developing agricultural skills as life skills.

Dr. R.C. Agrawal highlighted the importance of agricultural education in achieving the dream of 'Aatmanirbhar' (self-reliant) India, making farmers both producers and entrepreneurs. He emphasized that there is an utmost need to promote agro-entrepreneurship in the country for which the agricultural education system in India will have to evolve in sync with the fast-changing international scenario especially the school education. Dr Anupama Singh, encouraged teachers and scientist to promote agriculture among young minds of schools. She also highlighted the diversity and science involved within agricultural education and outlined the scope and career opportunities in agriculture. Ms Bimla Kumari, congratulated the teachers who are going to participate in the training and highlighted the important role IARI has played during green revolution.

The program ended with formal vote of thanks, given by one of the coordinators of the training Dr. Alka Singh, Head (Agricultural Economics) followed by group photograph. Under these 5 days hands on training Teachers will be exposed to several agricultural topics viz. field crops, horticulture crops, seed science and technology, food processing and post-harvest technology, gardening, farm machinery and tools, waste management, integrated farming system, urban horticulture, protected cultivation, organic farming, smart agriculture, apiculture, soil sciences etc.

